Deputy President.—I must put the amendment first to the votes.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The main proposition is accepted by the House. Where is the necessity for the other?

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—I withdraw the amendment.

The amendment was withdrawn with leave.

9. Panchayat allotments.

Deputy President.—The next is the resolution of Mr. Raja.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—The resolution reads thus:—"*This Council recommends that a standing committee be appointed for the distribution of Panchayat allotments in the budget among the various Panchayats of the State.*" In British India, in the Provincial Councils as well as in the Central Legislature, there are standing committees in almost all the Departments of the Government; specially Excise, Public Works, Education, etc. This resolution is only the attempt for the beginning of an active participation in the administration of the country. In this particular Department, there is a lot of complaint that the distribution of Panchayat allotments is not fair. No personal aspersion is meant against the particular Head of the Department. The trouble is that it is very strongly suspected that these allotments are made very often without the knowledge of even the Head of the Department. I shall not go further than that; but I have more materials, if necessary, to show that the distribution is not fair. Fortune has showered her choicest blessings on the favoured few. A lot of money also lapses in this Department and there are a series of transfers of allotments. This works very inequitably against Panchayats who may not be in the good looks of some of the controlling officers in the office of the Superintendent of Panchayats. It is to voice this feeling that this resolution is now brought to this Council.

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—Mr. President, Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting this resolution. The Panchayats form an important unit in the administrative machinery of our State and as such the Government should spare no pains in extending their beneficent activities to the people. No scheme of rural re-construction can be attempted unless there is a well-developed system of Panchayats. Is it not strange, therefore, that this Department does not receive at the hands of the Government that care and attention which its importance deserves? Amongst the unsatisfactory features in the working of this Department, special stress has to be laid on the unequal distribution of allotments in the budget among the various Panchayats of the State. Panchayats which are under active

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